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## AMERICAN SLAVERY.—FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

To the Editor of the Anti-Slavery Reporter.

SIR,—The anti-slavery exertions in Cork during the visit of Frederick Douglass, were so important and extensive in their influence as to be worthy of a record in the pages of the *British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Reporter*. And though some notice has already been taken of them in your journal, yet I should think a brief sketch of the whole, and of the sensation they produced in this city, would be in accordance with the objects of your paper. Should such be your opinion, you will oblige us here if you can afford space for the following record, which I would commence with a notice of the man who is at present directing public attention in these countries to the slave system of America.

In the person of Frederick Douglass we have one of the ablest advocates for the universal emancipation of the slave. Undoubtedly he is such, when the peculiarities of his circumstances and situation are taken into account, as they cannot fail to be by all who look upon the man, and read the "Narrative of his Life." The effects which the expositions of such a man must produce upon "Slavery as it is," can scarcely be over-estimated. They are powerful and enduring, and fix the lever which will finally overturn the slave system in all nations making any pretensions to civilization; especially will the American slave system feel the shock of his powerful and sustained efforts. A system which can doom such men as Douglass to the whip and fetter, it may be of an ignorant and imbruted slaveholder, cannot long stand before the stirring emotions of an informed public opinion, which will sway to and fro amongst the various nations of the earth. The physical obstructions to this interchange of feeling are being every day removed, and mind shall sway mind, though lying at earth's remotest bounds. This interchange of thought and feeling amongst good and true men is to be the sure purifier of the world. It can mould public, domestic, political, and "peculiar institutions" to its will, and make "the wilderness blossom as the rose."

When one of an enslaved people, bursting his fetters, quits the land of false pretensions, and stands amongst the nations who have abolished the horrid traffic and ownership in human flesh and blood, and pleads—his countenance beaming with the light of an unclouded intellect, his breast heaving with deep but calm emotion, his whole figure and bearing stamping him nature's freeman, it is a fact of mighty significance, portending no distant revolution. Frederick Douglass is a defender, leader, and advocate, that any people might be proud to acknowledge. As a man, he is ours; we claim him as one of the great human family.

The *Philadelphia Elevator*, a paper conducted by coloured people of the United States, and devoted especially to the elevation of that class, and to the cause of abolition, contains such an interesting reference to the inquiries concerning Douglass of his former companions in slavery, and of free coloured people who knew him when a slave, that we are tempted to extract it.

"FREDERICK DOUGLASS.—We observe that this self-emancipated man has lately sent forth from the press a sketch of his life. Everybody should read it. It is an exceedingly interesting, as well as ably written work. While lately in a part of Maryland, we were unexpectedly called upon by at least a dozen coloured persons, some of them slaves, and others freemen, who had heard that we knew Frederick at the north, and who wished to hear news of their old friend. They knew him by his assumed as well as by his real name, and related to us many interesting incidents about their former companion."

"Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave, written by Himself," is the title of this memoir. Since the arrival of Douglass in these countries, it has been republished by Webb and Chapman, of Dublin. It is introduced to the public by an eloquent letter from the pen of William Lloyd Garrison, which relates the overpowering effect the first speech he ever heard from the lips of Frederick Douglass had upon his mind and heart, and upon the minds and hearts of the multitude assembled at the convention at Nantucket, gives a history of the connexion from the first of Frederick Douglass with the abolition party, and goes on to say—"This narrative contains many affecting incidents, many passages of great eloquence and power; but I think the most thrilling one of them all is the description Douglass gives of his feelings, as he stood soliloquising respecting his fate, and the chances of his one day being a freeman, on the banks of the Chesapeake Bay, viewing the receding vessels as they flew with their white wings before the breeze, and apostrophising them as animated by the living spirit of freedom. Who can read that passage, and be insensible to its pathos and sublimity? Compressed into it is a whole Alexandrian library of thought, feeling, and sentiment—all that can, all that need be urged, in the form of expostulation, entreaty,

rebuke, against that crime of crimes, making man the property of his fellow-man!" This letter is followed by another, powerfully and beautifully written, from the heart and mind of the "mellifluous-toned Wendell Phillips."

Though prepared for the visit of Frederick Douglass, nothing could prepare us for the effect which the sight of such a man produced, as a fugitive from a democratic, Christian-boasting, freedom-shouting people! Our souls sickened within us at the thought of such a people tightening the slave-chain, and wielding the slave whip, yet making the loudest professions to human equality and brotherhood of any nation of the earth.

"His skin may be black, his skin may be white,  
We carena fig, if his bosom be right,"

says a Scotch song. And the bosom of Frederick Douglass is all right. He is a man of power, a true-hearted man, one of God's best gifts to the world.

Mr. Douglass came to these countries in company with J. N. Buffum, Esq., in his own country the well-known, long-tried friend of the slave. We were sorry that Mr. Buffum had to leave us in the midst of our exertions—that we lost his advocacy at the greater number of the public meetings. He is a gentleman in the truest sense of the word, a man that quickly wins the sympathy of those he is introduced to; he soon became endeared to us, and we parted him with regret.

During the short stay of Frederick Douglass in our city, he spoke at eleven public meetings; nine of these were summoned in quick succession to listen to his addresses. In the City Court House we had the first great public meeting—it was crowded to excess. The following resolutions, evincing the interest our leading public men themselves took in the subject which Frederick Douglass advocates, were adopted by acclamation. The utmost enthusiasm prevailed.

"1. That we extend our cordial greetings to Frederick Douglass, the American slave, and to J. N. Buffum, Esq., the American freeman who has nobly volunteered to suffer for the bondsman, and with open hands and warm hearts welcome them to our native land.

"2. That it is the bounden duty of the people of this country to bring their moral influence to bear on the American nation, to awaken them from their criminal apathy in regard to the three millions of their fellow-countrymen whom they hold in bondage.

"3. That the system of slavery, as it exists in America, is of so extensive and hideous a character, as to influence and promote slaveholding and slave-trading in any country where they may unhappily exist: that, therefore, our duty to injured Africa and our abhorrence of the slave system in every land, calls upon all people, however poor, however distressed, to give time, thought, and labour to the best means of exterminating a system that demoralizes the slave, demonizes the master, and is a degradation to the whole human family."

On the morning of the day that this meeting was held at the Court-house, the Ladies' and Gentlemen's Anti-Slavery Societies met to breakfast at Lloyd's hotel, to entertain Mr. Douglass and Mr. Buffum. On this occasion the information Mr. Buffum communicated and the illustrative anecdotes he related were deeply interesting to the company. Mr. Douglass, by his calm, forcible remarks, showed his power of intellect and soundness of heart, and gave the utmost satisfaction by his conversation and presence. We had three great evening meetings at the spacious Independent chapel. The moment Mr. Douglass stepped upon the platform, and proceeded with his lectures, he appeared nature's nobleman, knowing himself, and commanding at will the minds and hearts of his audience. We had day-meetings at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Patrick-street, and at the Clarence-rooms, Imperial hotel. We had a meeting of the contributors to the Boston Bazaar, in addressing which Frederick Douglass was particularly effective; his calm, quiet manner, his elevated spiritual views, served to render this one of the most interesting of the series. In company with Mr. William Martin of this city, Frederick Douglass visited Youghall, twenty-six miles from Cork. They had a crowded meeting, anxious to hear again the burning eloquence of Frederick Douglass.

Previous to the departure of Frederick Douglass from our city, the Ladies' and Gentlemen's Anti-Slavery Societies met in the Committee-room of the Royal Cork Institution, and unanimously adopted an address to him. The evening of the same day he delivered his farewell address to a respectable and overflowing audience. And now that he has departed our city, he goes with the hearty good wishes for his success, and the warm personal attachment of a large circle of friends, who have spent many happy hours in his society, and can never forget the pleasures of his intercourse with them.

Yours respectfully,

RALPH VARIAN.

Cork, Dec. 2, 1845.



## THE CASES OF THE FELICIDADE AND THE ECHO.

SERJEANTS INN HALL, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3.

Before the Fifteen Judges.

REGINA v. SERVA AND OTHERS.

Sir J. DODSON, Queen's Advocate, and Dr. Phillimore, appeared for the Crown; Dr. Addams for the prisoners Joaquim, Ribeiro, Martinos, and Francisco; and Dr. Harding for the other prisoners, Serva, Majaval, and Alves.

Dr. ADDAMS opened the argument. The foundation of this conviction he collected from the concluding paragraph of the report of the learned judge (Mr. Baron Platt) who tried the prisoners, which was in these terms:—"I thought that the *Felicidade* was in the lawful custody of Her Majesty's officers, that all on board that vessel were within Her Majesty's Admiralty jurisdiction, and that if the jury were satisfied by the evidence that the prisoners plotted together to slay all the English on board, and run away with the vessel, and that in carrying their design into execution Majaval slew Mr. Palmer, by stabbing him and throwing him overboard, and that the other convicted prisoners were present, aiding and assisting Majaval in the commission of that act, they should find them guilty of murder." The facts of the case he also collected briefly from the same report to be these:—"The evidence established the following facts:—On the 22nd of February last the *Felicidade*, a Brazilian schooner, commanded by Joaquim Antonio de Cirqueira, and bound on a voyage from the Brazils to Africa, for the purpose of bringing back a cargo of slaves, arrived off the African coast, and on the 26th of that month, while she was hovering within sixteen miles of the shore, and within six degrees of north latitude, was observed by Her Majesty's ship of war the *Wasp*, stationed off the Slave Coast for the prevention of the slave-trade, and then cruising for that purpose near Lagos, off the point of Benin, under the command of Captain Usher, who, upon approaching the *Felicidade*, manned two boats and gave the command of them to Lieutenant Stupart, one of his officers, with orders to board the *Felicidade*, and if she appeared to be fitted up for the slave-trade to capture her. Lieutenant Stupart, in obedience to those orders, went with the two boats to the *Felicidade*. Cirqueira, the captain, immediately surrendered, and, accompanied by all his crew except Majaval and three others, was conveyed on board the *Wasp*." Something had been suggested as to that being a voluntary surrender, but he thought their Lordships would not so consider it. The report continued,—"At the time of her capture the *Felicidade* was fitted for the reception of a cargo of slaves, and was within sixteen miles of the shore. On the 27th of February, between four and five o'clock p.m., Captain Usher having removed from the *Felicidade* the three men who had been left with Majaval, sent back Cirqueira to the *Felicidade*, manned her with sixteen British seamen, and placed her under the command of Lieutenant Stupart, and directed him to steer a particular course in pursuit of a vessel capable of being seen from the *Wasp*, although then invisible from the *Felicidade*." Now, there was no *constat* that the vessel which was captured by Mr. Palmer was the vessel that was seen from the *Wasp*. However, "Lieutenant Stupart accordingly steered that course, but did not observe any object until the following morning at daybreak, when he descried the *Echo*, a Brazilian brigantine, commanded by the prisoner Serva. He chased her, and, coming up with her at ten o'clock on the following night, fired a pistol as a signal to bring to, got into the jollyboat, (what jollyboat there was no proof), and hoisted the British colours. The captain of the *Echo* hailed the men in the boat and asked who they were, and upon being informed that they were English immediately set sail. Lieutenant Stupart continued the chase, and overtook the *Echo* at eight o'clock on the next night within ten miles of the African coast, when and where she lowered her sails and surrendered. The lieutenant had at that time under his command Mr. Palmer, a midshipman, and sixteen British seamen. He ordered Mr. Palmer and eight of the seamen to take charge of the *Echo* during the night. On Mr. Palmer going on board the *Echo* he found in her the prisoner Serva, Serva's nephew, twenty-five men, and a cargo consisting of 434 slaves; and by the direction of Lieutenant Stupart, the vessels being at that time close together, sent Serva, his nephew, and eleven of the crew, to the *Felicidade*, where they remained during the night in the custody of Lieutenant Stupart. During the chase, and at the time of the surrender, Lieutenant Stupart wore his uniform, and at the time of the surrender and capture told Serva he was going to take them to Her Majesty's ship *Wasp*, for being engaged in the slave-trade. The *Wasp* had printed instructions on board. Lieutenant Stupart had not any printed instructions on board the *Felicidade*, and did not show any other authority than his uniform and the British ensign; he had, however, boarded the *Echo* several times before, and to Serva was well known as an officer in Her Majesty's navy. The slaves had been shipped on board the *Echo* at Lagos. At nine in the morning next after the capture, Lieutenant Stupart took with him Serva's nephew to the *Echo*, and placed Mr. Palmer and nine British seamen under his command on board the *Felicidade*, in order that he might take charge of her, and of Cirqueira and Serva, and the other prisoners, and three others of the *Echo*'s crew. Within an hour afterwards Serva, Majaval, Alves, Ribeiro, Francisco, Martinos, and Joaquim, conspired together to kill all the English on board the *Felicidade*, and take her; and in pursuance of that conspiracy rose upon Mr. Palmer and his men, and after a short conflict succeeded in slaughtering them;"—observe, after a short conflict. Now, if these persons were in lawful custody, then there might be a plot to kill; but if not in lawful custody, then it would only be a plan to regain the property of which they had been unjustly deprived, and if in the course of that plan a killing ensued, it could not be murder. The root, therefore, of all was, whether this was a lawful seizure, and whether these persons were in lawful custody. If they were not in lawful custody, there was no *corpus delicti*; but if they were, even supposing that there was a killing, then they were not amenable to the laws or jurisdiction of this country, and by no principle of international law with which he was acquainted could this conviction be sustained. The learned civilian then proceeded to argue that the crew on board the *Felicidade* were not liable to be seized

as pirates, under the treaty with Brazil, and the act of the 7th and 8th Geo. IV., founded on it.

By the 5th George IV., c. 113, the regulations of the right of search and capture were laid down with respect to the Portuguese subjects, and the same regulations applied to the other act with respect to Brazilian subjects. By that act a ship of war of the royal navy which should be provided with such special instructions for the purpose as were therein-after provided might visit any merchant vessel of the two nations which might be suspected on reasonable grounds of having slaves on board acquired by illicit traffic; and, in the event of actually finding slaves on board, might detain and take such vessel, in order to bring it to trial before the tribunal thereby provided. Now, in the case of the *Felicidade*, admitting the search to be lawful, the detention was unlawful. The officer searching the vessel was bound to adhere strictly to the exact tenor of the instructions. It should have been by a vessel forming part of the royal navy at the time, and one, too, provided with the special instructions he had mentioned. He believed it was in evidence that there were not proper instructions on board the *Wasp*.

Mr. Baron ALDERSON said, there was no such evidence.

The CHIEF BARON said, it might be put thus.—Either the instructions were violated by the captain of the *Wasp*, or the treaty was violated by the instructions.

Dr. ADDAMS said, either there were or were not instructions on board the *Wasp*. If there were, they were the instructions specified in the act, or they were not. If they were, she had exceeded her power; if they were not, she was not qualified to make the capture. But by an additional article, made in 1823, to the convention of 1817, it was declared that, if there were clear and undeniable proof that any slaves had been on board a vessel on a particular voyage, she might be detained; but what evidence was there that there had been slaves on board the *Felicidade* in the course of the voyage in which she was captured? Again, if the British officers had acted conformably to the instructions of their own Government, that might be a justification for them, but that would not do with respect to foreigners.

Mr. Baron PARKE.—Supposing, instead of murder, this had been a larceny committed on board the *Felicidade*, would the Admiralty have had jurisdiction? Would it, if the vessel had been seized under Admiralty instructions, which were contrary to the treaty? Would it, if the vessel had been seized by a British subject, contrary to instructions or without instructions?

Dr. ADDAMS submitted that in neither of these cases would the Admiralty have had jurisdiction.

Mr. Baron ALDERSON.—Is the nationality of the ship changed by a capture which is the private act of the captor wrongfully; and is it changed by a capture which is the act of the Government?

Lord DENMAN.—Where should an offence committed on the deck of the *Felicidade* after the capture have been tried?

Mr. Baron ALDERSON.—That is one of the points we want information upon.

Dr. ADDAMS.—A wrongful seizure, even if made in compliance with instructions from our Government, would not bind foreigners, to make them liable to be tried in this country and by its laws. The officer might be justified to his own Government, but there would be no privity between the foreigner and the British Government. Here, however, there was no evidence of the sanction of that Government, and surely the Court would not presume that it had issued orders to its officers contrary to the treaty and the statute. But next with regard to the *Echo*,—as to this vessel the treaty was violated in several points. The search was made "by an officer holding a rank inferior to that of lieutenant in the navy," namely, by a midshipman. There were no instructions on board the *Felicidade*, and she had been absent fifty-two hours from the *Wasp*, which had instructions, and was perhaps 500 miles from her. The visit and seizure were not made by "a ship of war of our royal navy," the jollyboat of the *Felicidade* was employed. The *Felicidade* could not be deemed a tender to the *Wasp*. The *Felicidade* remained still a Brazilian vessel; there was not even an incipient conversion; and could it be contended that the captain of the *Wasp* could make any vessels which he chose to capture, rightfully or wrongfully, tenders to his vessel, so that they could capture slave-ships under the treaty? It was absurd. Therefore the visitation and search of the *Echo* were unlawful, and, if so, the detention was unlawful, for a lawful detention could not be grounded on an unlawful visitation and search; and so this was not a plot to murder the English on board, but a plan which these persons had a right to concert for the purpose of gaining their liberty; if, in carrying it into effect, killing ensued, there was no *corpus delicti* attached to the act. Here was no finding of unnecessary violence; and, *ex natura rei*, the probability was from the whole of the *res gesta* that there was none. In the next place, the Court which had tried these prisoners had no jurisdiction, and the proceedings had been *coram non iudice*. On the broad seas no nation had any jurisdiction except over the persons of its own subjects in its public and private vessels. Hence the present indictment stated that Mr. Palmer "was within Her Majesty's peace," and concluded that the slaying was "against the peace of the Queen."

Mr. Baron PARKE.—The question is, then, whether the *Felicidade* became by the seizure an English ship *quoad hoc*?

Dr. ADDAMS.—That, again, depended on the question whether it was a lawful seizure.

Lord DENMAN.—Supposing Mr. Palmer had seized a person actually dealing in the slave-trade without orders from his Government, for the purpose of taking him to be tried by the law of Brazil, or by the Mixed Commission, and the person seized had resisted and been killed by Palmer, and Palmer had been tried for the murder, must he not, upon your argument, have been found guilty?

Dr. Addams's answer was not distinctly heard, but he was understood to say that it would have been manslaughter.

Mr. Baron ALDERSON here read a case of "Turner v. Carew," from Beawe's *Lex Mercatoria*, where a capture, made under a mistaken impression that letters of reprisal had not been recalled, was held no piracy, because it was only done with a view to a condemnation, and not *animo depredandi*, it being held, also, that the power of re-seizing continued until brought into port.



Dr. HARDING, who appeared for Majaval, Serva, and Alves, then proceeded to argue, first, that neither the Queen's ships nor the Queen's officers have any general right to search foreign vessels on the ocean in time of peace, but that the sea is free and common to all nations; second, that these prisoners were not pirates by the law of nations, inasmuch as slave-trading was not piracy, and not contrary to the law of nations; third, that these prisoners were not pirates under or by reason of the treaty or any construction to be put upon it; fourth, that the prisoners were illegally and wrongfully captured, and detained in direct violation of the treaty; fifth, that at all events they were not subject to the British jurisdiction or criminal law, in other words, that this offence was not against the peace of our Lady the Queen; sixth, that even if subject to the British jurisdiction, they had either committed no crime or a less one than murder. Supposing that the Court would look at the treaties as they would at any other document of the same kind, they would see what the parties had undertaken to promise thereby. What was the first thing they discovered to be wanting in these treaties between Portugal and England, and Brazil and England? There nowhere appeared any means pointed out or any desire expressed by the parties to have the persons engaged in these pursuits brought to justice, or even restrained in any way from committing the offence again. He could not find one word of authority for putting into custody, for keeping in custody, or for handing over parties to be dealt with by their own Government in these treaties, or for the English Government doing that or anything else necessary for restraining or preventing them doing the same thing again. This he submitted was a very material argument in favour of the prisoners. Then, was there any law of Brazil making the slave-trade piracy, or for enforcing the treaty in any way whatever, or making the pursuing such trade any offence at all? There was nothing in the report of the learned baron to show that at present the traffic was not as lawful in Brazil as the traffic in sugar. Then it appeared that this was a lawful traffic by the law of nations, and there was nothing to show that it was unlawful by the laws of Brazil. He apprehended, therefore, that he had a right to say, that as the case stood on the treaties there was no means of bringing offenders in this traffic to justice or of restraining them from following it.

Mr. Baron PARKE.—The question simply is as to the seizure of the vessel. The real question is, was the *Felicidade* seizable in the manner in which she was seized in virtue of the treaty?

Dr. HARDING resumed.—As to the ships, they were differently situated. As to the *Felicidade*, she had no slaves on board, and there was no presumption that she ever had. By the treaty with Portugal of 1817, the instructions were most positive not to seize any vessel that had not slaves on board. Those instructions were in force at this time. Here the *Felicidade* was captured and detained, and used to capture another vessel. The instructions were also, that no ship without slaves on board should be detained on any account or pretence whatever. There was no evidence that Captain Usher gave any other orders but to pursue. It did not appear that his orders were to capture; where was the pursuit to stop? They did not come up with the *Echo* till night. *Non constat* she was the same vessel. A boat was sent to board her without any colours. What had been done before by the attempt to capture in a jollyboat with colours did not amount to an incipient capture. Then, when a party was sent on board, that did not constitute a legal custody. He submitted there was no identification of the jollyboat. It could not be presumed that the jollyboat which took the *Echo* was the jollyboat of the *Wasp*, and not the jollyboat of the *Felicidade*. This was not such a capture as in lawful war would have confiscated the *Echo* to the *Wasp*. If the *Echo* was captured at all, the capture was not by the *Wasp*, but the *Felicidade*. The *Wasp* and *Felicidade* had been separated fifty-two hours when the capture of the *Echo* took place, and it could not be said to be a capture by the *Wasp*; the capture, therefore, was in direct violation of the treaty which confined the right of visitation to ships of the British navy. The next point was, what were the consequences that attached on the capture? He submitted that on an illegal capture no legal consequences attached. Upon these grounds, he contended that the prisoners for whom he appeared were improperly convicted.

Sir J. DODSON, as counsel for the Admiralty, said he trusted he should satisfy their lordships that the capture, both of the *Felicidade* and of the *Echo*, was lawful, and that both, at the time of the transaction that led to this conviction, were in the lawful custody of Her Majesty's officers. The material point was as to the legality of the capture of the *Felicidade*. The great objection to that legality arose from the circumstance that she had no slaves on board, which it was contended was a necessary circumstance to justify her detention under the treaty between this country and Portugal, and which was adopted between this country and Brazil. The 5th article of that treaty was in these terms:—

"The two high contracting powers, for the more complete attainment of their object, namely the prevention of all illicit traffic in slaves on the part of their respective subjects, mutually consent that the ships of war of their royal navies, which shall be provided with special instructions for this purpose, as hereinafter is provided, may visit such merchant vessels of the two nations as may be suspected, upon reasonable grounds, of having slaves on board, acquired by an illicit traffic, and in the event only of their actually finding slaves on board may detain and bring away such vessels, in order that they may be brought to trial before the tribunals established for this purpose, as shall hereinafter be specified."

Now, the objection was that there was no slaves on board the *Felicidade* when it was captured; but for the proper elucidation of this question it was necessary to refer to the convention between Great Britain and Brazil, which was recited in the 7th and 8th George IV. The first article of the treaty was this:—

"It was agreed upon and concluded between the high contracting parties, that at the expiration of three years, to be reckoned from the exchange of the ratifications of the present treaty, it should not be lawful for the subjects of the Emperor of Brazil to be concerned in the carrying on of the African slave-trade under any pretext, or in any manner whatever, and that the carrying on such trade after that by any person, subject of His Imperial Majesty, should be deemed and treated as piracy."

So that at the end of three years from the date of that treaty—that was,

on the 13th of March, 1830—the slave-trade was finally abolished by Brazil, and was to be deemed piracy. No words could be stronger. The second article was this:—

"By the second article of the said convention, His Majesty and His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, deeming it necessary to declare the engagements by which they hold themselves bound to provide for the regulation of the said trade till the time of its final abolition, did mutually agree to adopt and renew, as effectually as if the same were inserted word for word in the said convention, the several articles and provisions of the treaties concluded between His Majesty and the King of Portugal on this subject on the 22nd of January, 1817, and the several explanatory articles which have been added thereto."

Then, upon the face of those two articles he apprehended it was quite clear that on the 13th of March, 1830, the treaty altogether prohibited the slave-trade, and made it piracy, and persons engaged in it were to be considered as pirates. Then came the stipulations, that till the time of the final abolition of the slave-trade the Portuguese treaties of 1815 and 1817, and the additional articles, should be the rules by which the trade was to be guided. But they would not apply after the 13th of March, 1830; and if that were so, then the case was quite clear against these parties; for any British vessel might have seized and detained a vessel engaged in the slave-trade and the persons on board. He did not say they could have tried the prisoners as pirates, unless there had been an act of the Legislature to enable that to be done, but an act might have been passed to that effect. He would, however, take it that the Portuguese treaties were in force, and formed part of the Brazilian treaty; but then they must be considered with reference to the important first article to which he had referred. Now, it seemed to him that many of the conditions of the Portuguese treaties could not possibly, and were not intended to, apply to or override the first article. That was evident from the circumstance that by the Portuguese treaties the slave-trade was to be legal south of the equator, a provision that could not apply to Brazil, who said that the trade should be entirely abolished. Another thing that occurred to him in that respect was, that by the Portuguese treaties a passport was required for vessels lawfully engaged in the slave-trade.

The CHIEF BARON said, there were certain clauses in the treaties with Portugal wholly applying to illegal slave-trading. Those clauses could not apply until the term of three years from the treaty with Brazil, because it was not until then that the trade was illegal; so that the term "*mutatis mutandis*" in that treaty, in reference to the Portuguese treaties, could only be read with respect to those parts which were applicable. The additional articles of March 15, 1823, appended to the treaty, in consequence of vessels being found to put their slaves on shore just before being visited by ships of war, declared that if there should be clear and undeniable proof of slaves having been put on board in the particular voyage for the purpose of the traffic, such vessel should be detained by the cruiser, and finally condemned by the commissioners; that qualified the article which prohibited detention except where slaves were actually found on board; and Captain Usher, if he had reasonable ground of suspicion, would have been justified in taking this vessel into port with a view to investigation. It was a mistake to suppose that a vessel could not be legally captured, unless that were followed by condemnation; what was the use of a court of justice if the parties were to be quite sure of the facts before taking a vessel in? If taken improperly, the remedy was given by the award of costs and damages. As to the instructions on board the *Wasp*, it must be assumed that after 1830, when the slave-trade was made piracy by the Brazilian treaty, instructions were sent out conformable to that state of things, and very different from those applicable to Portuguese vessels, which could deal in the trade under certain restrictions.

Mr. Baron PARKE.—Still, where was the "clear and undeniable proof" that slaves had been put on board in that voyage?

Sir J. DODSON.—There was reasonable suspicion, for the vessel had been hovering for four days about the coast, and that was sufficient to warrant its being taken, that "clear and undeniable proof" might be given in Court; it was that practice of being colourably without slaves when actually visited that led to the additional articles of 1823. But further, the treaty applied to all vessels equipped for the slave-trade after its total abolition. The judgments of the only competent courts, the Courts of Mixed Commission at Sierra Leone and Rio, had been to that effect. These cases, though not regularly reported, were certified by the judges themselves and printed in the slave-trade papers laid before Parliament. In the papers for 1839-40 there was the case of the *Empreheador* before the British and Brazilian Court, and the vessel being equipped for the slave-trade, that was held sufficient to call for condemnation under the treaty; it had no right to go anywhere for slaves, and therefore an equipment was *prima facie* evidence of being about to do an illegal act. So the case of the *Fortuna*, (1 Dodson, 86,) showed it to be Lord Stowell's opinion that it was not necessary there should be slaves on board, if there was an equipment in spite of a prohibition to traffic in slaves; and a vessel must be condemned if she sailed upon the illegal voyage. Thus, then, there was a right to capture the *Felicidade*, and give up the parties to be punished by the laws of their country, if there were such a law, and there ought to be, since the treaty made the trade piracy. It had been said that the British legislature, in 7 and 8 George IV., had drawn a distinction, while making it piracy to carry on the slave-trade, by making it only a common felony to be guilty of the minor offence of being concerned in the trade, or equipping for it; but the treaty, be it observed, applied to Brazilian subjects only, and not to British, and therefore that argument failed. Chancellor Kent treated the slave-trade as piracy, so far as it was made so either by treaty or statute of the nation to which the delinquent belonged; and, indeed, if Brazil entered into a treaty with Great Britain, Great Britain had a right to presume that Brazil followed it up by a corresponding municipal law, nor could a Brazilian be heard to contend that there was no such law. It was true, that the case of the *Empreheador* gave only the British view of the subject, for it was a condemnation at Sierra Leone by the British commissioner; but there was also the case of the *Maria Carlotta*, carried into Rio, on being found equipped for the slave-trade, but with no slaves on board; the Brazilian government consented that that case should go before the court.



Lord DENMAN.—The conduct of the Government can hardly be properly cited; but if its consent was given, it would seem that the courts would not otherwise feel authorized to condemn.

Sir J. DODSON.—The *Esperanza*, equipped for the slave-trade, but with no slaves on board, was also carried into Rio, and condemned; and that happened to be a capture by this very Captain Usher. It had been argued that where there was only an equipment there was a right to resist, and to recapture; so that if the captors were wrong as to the event, they might be murdered. The case of neutral vessels captured in war had been mentioned; now, the crews of these had no right to rise upon their captors, and rescue the ship by violence, but were bound to abide the sentence of the proper court of the country of the captor; an attempt to rescue would render the ship and cargo liable to condemnation. Here, let it be remembered, the treaty gave a right of visit and search; every Brazilian subject had agreed to that.

Mr. Baron PARKE.—He has agreed to what the executive government has agreed to; but the question is, has he by the treaty agreed to anything more than a seizure by a British officer with proper instructions?

Sir J. DODSON.—But the officer's exceeding his instructions would not authorize a rising upon him. The instructions must be taken to be for the capture of Brazilian subjects. Then the captain's commission was on board, and even if it were exceeded in the manner of doing what had been done. With respect to the *Felicidade*, the visitation and search were admitted to be proper, and he submitted that under the circumstances the detention and capture were legal, and that it was in the legal custody of a British officer. As to the capture of the *Echo*, it was made by the jolly-boat of the *Wasp*. There was nothing to show that the lieutenant should be the first person to enter the ship. Previous to the vessel striking its colours, there had been a visitation and search by the lieutenant in the strictest sense. But if there was something not quite correct in this part of the proceedings, he could not think that every minute deviation would justify the crew rising up and slaying the prize officer on board. The vessel was taken by a person in a jolly-boat, by a British officer; but if it had been taken by the *Felicidade*, that, he submitted, was a legal use to put it to. The only question that remained, was, whether these vessels being lawfully captured, and in the possession of the British Crown, was sufficient to found the jurisdiction of our courts. His learned friends had endeavoured to make out that these were Brazilian vessels, and that the property was not converted; but the fact was, that if they were in the custody of the British, that was quite enough. They must be looked on in the same light as if they were floating islands; and put the case of our taking possession of an island in the sea, would not the law of England prevail there if the Crown chose?

Mr. Baron PARKE.—The old law remains in force till the Queen orders otherwise.

Mr. Baron ALDERSON.—Then another question is, whether, if this offence be triable at all, it ought not to be tried by the Brazilian law?

The CHIEF BARON.—The jurisdiction of the Admiralty does not extend to islands. Is there any case that decides that neutrals captured are under British law before adjudication?

The learned gentleman resumed by saying, that if in proper custody the deck was part and parcel of British land; not, he was ready to admit, to all intents and purposes, but he contended that for the time, for this purpose, it was part of British territory. That would be the case of a neutral, and for the time the allegiance of the crew captured was transferred to the British Crown, and they would be liable not merely as Englishmen, but as parties who had committed the offence in that place. It followed of course that murder by a Brazilian subject was within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty. Therefore he contended he had made out that the *Felicidade* was lawfully captured, and that she became thereby British territory. The rest of the case only related to the amount of the crime.

Dr. ADDAMS and Dr. HARDING replied.  
The Judges then retired.

#### THE ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER.

NOTICE is hereby given to the Friends and Subscribers of the ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER, that from and after the 1st January, 1846, it will be issued MONTHLY instead of fortnightly, as at present, and that whilst it will be increased to double its present size, its price, with a view to its increased circulation, both at home and abroad, will be reduced to FIVE SHILLINGS per annum, payable in advance if ordered through the Anti-Slavery Office, No. 27, NEW BROAD-STREET, LONDON. The REPORTER can be ordered also through the usual News-venders.

### The Anti-Slavery Reporter.

LONDON, DECEMBER 10, 1845.

The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society beg to call the attention of the friends of the Anti-Slavery cause generally to the annexed advertisement, which indicates the intended alteration in the time of issue of the ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER. Hitherto it has appeared every fortnight, but from the beginning of the next year, 1846, it will be issued on the first of every month, except, of course, when it falls on a Sunday. The price, it will be seen, is to be reduced from eight shillings and eightpence, to five shillings per annum. The Committee hope by this means greatly to increase its home circulation, and to be enabled thereby to cover the expense connected with a large gratuitous foreign circulation; they would, therefore, respectfully and earnestly urge on the

attention of the Ladies' and Gentlemen's Auxiliary Associations and their friends everywhere throughout the country the necessity and importance of obtaining additional subscribers for the ensuing year. The Committee will use their best exertions to improve as far as possible this organ of the Society, and to render it worthy, in every respect, of the great cause it has hitherto so efficiently served. The Committee will be happy to learn that their friends have taken this subject under their special care, and would add, that lists of subscribers should be forwarded to the office agreeably to the terms specified in the advertisement. The REPORTER will contain every species of information, of material importance, on slavery and the slave-trade, and the progress of the Anti-Slavery cause throughout the world. It need scarcely be asserted, that that cause stands intimately associated with the progress of knowledge, civilization, and religion amongst men, and deserves the enlightened and warm-hearted support of every friend of humanity.

WE have inserted as extended an account as our space will permit of the second argument held before the fifteen judges on the case of the Brazilian slave-traders tried at Exeter, for the murder of Mr. Palmer on board the *Felicidade*. By a subsequent announcement in the *Times*, we learn that the judges have declared the conviction invalid on two grounds—first, that it is not piracy for the Brazilians to carry on the slave-trade until they have made it to be so by Brazilian municipal law; and, secondly, that the *Felicidade* was wrongfully taken, not having any slaves on board, and, therefore, that she did not become a British ship, and was not accordingly justified in capturing the *Echo*.

In so far as the lives of seven human beings are rescued by this decision from the hands of the executioner, we sincerely rejoice in it; and we shall be still more happy, if lives redeemed from such imminent peril shall be hereafter devoted to less criminal pursuits. The whole case, however, casts a melancholy light on the system of armed intervention for the suppression of the slave-trade, which the British Government has long pursued, and still pursues, with so much ardour. Had the proceedings of the British cruiser been legally conducted, here would have been a double sacrifice of human life—of Mr. Palmer and the prize crew, in the first instance, by the hands of the slave-traders, and of the slave-traders themselves, in the next instance, by the hands of justice. First, half a dozen British lives by murder, and then as many Brazilian by the hangman, constitute a dreadful price to pay for the capture of a couple of slavers. The chances, however, as it seems, are many that, in some point or other of this intricate business, there shall be a flaw, and that captures effected at an imminent peril, and often at a great expense, of life to the captor, shall not be legally made. Hence the course of British naval officers is subjected to most trying embarrassments, and the exposure of their lives is made without even that shadow of protection which the retributive operation of British law might be supposed to afford. After all the pains that has been taken with this system, this is a melancholy result, and it goes still further to strengthen the arguments which have been adduced against the system itself.

FROM the West India mail we have extracted the most interesting particulars. In Jamaica, Lord Elgin has expressed himself very cautiously on the Immigration question. He admits that an opinion unfavourable to it "seems very generally to prevail," and declines giving any opinion of his own. In Guiana there has been a meeting held in favour of political reform. The *Gazette* tries to laugh at it, as consisting of "uninfluential" persons; the *Times*, on the contrary, exhibits the assemblage as one of no common importance. Upwards of a thousand people were collected on the occasion, in Georgetown, and they showed throughout that they knew how to conduct themselves. The resolutions adopted, which we have given elsewhere, are justly stated by the *Guiana Times* to be "both reasonable and temperate." The *Grenada Gazette* states that "a spirit of enterprise and of improvement has been displayed, far beyond anything that was ever known ere protection became a problematical question with the government of the day. The subject of leases is evidently occupying the mind of the agricultural body just now very seriously, as the only secure and practical means of accomplishing that full development of the resources of the soil, which is indispensable at once for their own interests, and those of the country at large."

Our file of the *Cerneen* makes us acquainted with the further progress of affairs in Mauritius. It appears that the planters have addressed a letter to the Governor, requesting him to take measures for compelling the immigrants who have hired themselves as labourers to complete their engagements. To this His Excellency has replied that he will give his best consideration to such measures for this purpose as may be submitted to him, and he requests that the Committee on immigration, with the character and proceedings of which our readers are already acquainted, will take the question into their hands, and report upon it. In consequence of this request, this body are engaged in the preparation of a second report, of the tenor of which we suppose we shall not be long uninformed.

Next to His Excellency, Sir William Nicolay, the Committee of



the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society has been honoured with the largest share of our contemporary's regard, in the present batch of his lucubrations. The letter which this body addressed in the spring to Lord Stanley, and the petition which they presented to the House of Commons, both of them on the subject of Coolie immigration, have fixed his attention, and stirred him rather deeply. He confesses, indeed, that he has been put out of temper by them; and in full consistency with this confession he proceeds to remark upon them. They contain, he says, "a combination of ignorance and misrepresentation," "palpable falsehoods, abominable calumnies, and flagrant absurdities." Accordingly he feels towards the Committee "anger and contempt," "disgust and indignation," and tells us that he is going to use towards them "some of those words which, like a red-hot iron, brand shame and infamy," (we quote his exact words, although they are almost too candid for belief,) "on the brow of those who utter them," but of which we forbear further quotation. He assures us finally, that he boils with rage the more furiously, and the more fiercely brands himself with shame and infamy, in proportion to the devotion he feels "to the cause of truth and justice." We confess we had not rated this quality in our contemporary so high as to account for quite so violent a disturbance. We beg to suggest to him, however, that, if he is really actuated by so ardent a devotedness to the sacred cause he mentions, a little self-command may do more to promote it than many ebullitions of unbridled wrath. An angry man, like a drunken one, can neither see clearly nor reason conclusively. For our own part, we are sorry that a writer who, if he could have kept his temper, might have rendered some service to the cause of truth and justice, should have so absolutely disqualified himself for this service, by the use of language which, according to his own showing, "brands shame and infamy" on his brow.

Our contemporary is scarcely less angry with the *Anti-Slavery Reporter*, than with the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. Our offence consists in having exhibited "a sort of kindness and sympathy" towards the *Cernéen*, in having "quoted its testimony in support of our own views," and "assigned to it great weight and authority." That the editor should be vexed at finding that the views of this paper can be sustained by the citation—and we will affirm, the fair citation—of his own words, is not altogether surprising; but it is not equitable that he should vent his chagrin upon us. He should choose his side better, and adopt a cause in reference to which he may tell all the truth without giving an advantage to an adversary. As he now stands it is impossible for us to please him. If we contradict him he frets, and he frets if we coincide with him. He belongs, we suppose, to the race of cats who cannot bear to be either pinched or stroked. At the risk of getting another scratch, however, we feel an irresistible inclination to repeat our offence, by making the following extract from the letter of A PLANTER in the *Cernéen* of the 12th of August, premising merely that the weight we assign to this authority is second only to that which we attach to the words of the editor himself. Our extract is this:—"A self-appointed Sirdar, who arrived by the *Atyet Rohoman*, was permitted, within the depôt, to sell 180 men, besides women and children, at five rupees a head, as was there reported, and universally believed, because those who had offered short of that sum lost them." There is more in the paragraph from which we have made this quotation of which we may avail ourselves hereafter; but this will suffice for the present, and we leave our readers to digest it, as a pregnant illustration of the boasted freedom of choice which is guaranteed by so many alleged securities to the immigrants who land at Mauritius.

From the American papers we have given a few extracts, which will speak for themselves. It is cheerily evident that the anti-slavery cause, to use a term of their own, is onward in the United States. No circumstance, however, more strikingly indicates this, than the fact that the slaveholders themselves are beginning to take the subject of slavery into serious consideration, with a view to the termination of that great social mischief and wrong. The most remarkable case of this kind we have yet heard of is that of a meeting of slaveholders of all classes held in October last in Mason county, state of Kentucky. That a variety of opinions should be found to exist in such an assembly on such a subject was but natural; but it is much to say that the subject was temperately discussed by such parties at all, and more to say, that after discussion, such resolutions as the following were adopted by them:—

"1. Resolved,—That in a government of laws, under no circumstances, should force be used to inflict punishment for offences already committed, because of these the laws can take cognizance, and afford the appropriate remedy.

"2. Resolved,—That it is only in extreme cases, when a great and irreparable calamity threatens a community, and where the laws do not afford an adequate remedy, that force ought to be resorted to, and then only as a preventive remedy. And that, in the application of such force, the utmost care should be taken to guard against the slightest unnecessary injury to person or property.

"3. Resolved,—That we consider the paper called the *True American*, as having been commenced in a wrong spirit, conducted with indiscreet violence, and that it was wantonly offensive to the community where it was printed.

"4. Resolved,—That we consider the request submitted to the editor by a committee of the people of Lexington, to discontinue his paper, warranted by the intemperate and inflammatory character of his recent numbers; and that his reply to that request was conceived in a spirit of outrage, wholly unjustifiable, and meriting the severest reprobation.

"5. Resolved,—That this meeting regard the continued publication of an abolition paper in Kentucky as dangerous to the peace, order, and well-being of society; and in order to prevent irregular action in future, we recommend that laws be passed, inflicting such penalties upon incendiary abolition publications in our state, as shall effectually prevent their being hereafter circulated.

"6. Resolved,—That in the state of being which now prevails in Kentucky, produced by intemperate and injudicious zeal of abolitionists of other states, it would be impolitic to agitate the subject by calling a convention to amend the constitution. We, therefore, request our senators and representatives to oppose a call of a convention at the ensuing session of the Legislature, should a bill for that purpose be introduced.

"7. Resolved,—That in the opinion of this meeting, the moral condition of emancipated slaves cannot be improved while they remain here, mingling with a slave population; and that slaves thus emancipated, must continue to be a degraded race, injurious alike to themselves and the slave population. We are, therefore, of opinion, that the colonizing of them on the coast of Liberia, would be greatly beneficial to them, and a decided advantage to this community.

"8. Resolved,—That we highly approve the contemplated establishment on the coast of Liberia, of a colony of free persons of colour, from the state of Kentucky, and that a liberal encouragement ought to be afforded by our citizens to so useful an undertaking.

"9. Resolved,—That we regard gradual emancipation, accompanied by colonization, as the true and the only true policy of Kentucky; and we confidently hope that the time may come when this great system will be established by the people of this state. The discussion of its propriety, and the time when that discussion is to commence, are matters which should be left to individual judgment, under the promptings of an enlightened patriotism. When that discussion does commence, it should be faithfully protected by the law.

"10. Resolved,—That in thus expressing ourselves, we disclaim all sympathy with modern abolitionism, and condemn it as fanatical and dangerous, and calculated to delay the period when our state shall be relieved from the evils of slavery."

Of course we have not printed these resolutions because we approve them, but because they indicate, in our judgment, the existence and growing power of a sentiment in the slave-holding portion of the United States, from which, with all its present deficiencies, the best results may be expected. With an obvious exception, we sympathise with the following remarks in the *True American*:—

"There is something definite in these resolutions. They have substance in them. And no man can read them without being satisfied that there is, in a large portion of the Kentucky mind, at this hour, if extraneous influences could be removed from it, an earnest determination to adopt some practical scheme of emancipation, and an ardent wish to discuss and consider it when it shall be presented. This determination and wish may be controlled—suppressed—hid for a season, but they are there, deep-felt and strong—and they will out in spite of every device of master spirits to prevent it.

"These resolutions affirm:

"1. The necessity of gradual emancipation.

"2. That its discussion should be left to individual judgment and the promptings of an enlightened patriotism.

"3. That those who discuss this great question should be faithfully protected by law.

"Sound and sensible conclusions; just such conclusions as a law-abiding patriotic spirit would dictate and maintain, and such as we have contended for, and mean to contend for. Conditions are annexed, a rule laid down, in the ninth resolution, the correctness of which we might dispute; but this is a secondary matter. The thing—the noun substantive—emancipation, is there, and that is all in all. At that we look. For that we contend. And when we hear it affirmed that gradual emancipation, with or without conditions, is the true policy of Kentucky—when there accompanies this affirmation, the hope, expressed by the people, that the time will come when this great principle shall be adopted by this state—and when, in addition, the right of discussion is asserted—we put aside all minor points, and are content—ready almost, to rejoice in the sufferings we have borne, if, through them, these things were brought about, or even helped to be brought about, in the patriotic county of Mason."

We direct attention to our intelligence from Portugal. We learn from a private correspondent, that the opulent merchant at Angola, who has been so unceremoniously put on board ship, and carried no one knows where, as a man of infamous pursuits, has been for years employed in aiding and abetting the slave-trade, in providing manufactured goods for it, in having ships chartered for it, and in falsifying the ships' registers at the Custom-house. If so, this culprit may at last have got his deserts. In the Portuguese government it would afford us great pleasure to see proofs of sincerity and consistency.

#### TEXAS—OPPOSITION TO ITS ANNEXATION AS A SLAVE-STATE.

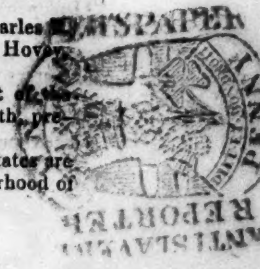
(From the *Liberator*.)

A MEETING of the citizens of Massachusetts, without distinction of party, was held in Faneuil Hall on the evening of November 4, 1845, for the purpose of devising means to resist the admission of Texas into the Union as a slave state.

The meeting was organized by the choice of the Hon. Charles Adams as chairman, and Messrs. James M. Wilton, Charles G. Hovey, and William I. Bowditch, as secretaries.

The Chairman having stated briefly and eloquently the object of the meeting, the Hon. John G. Palfrey, secretary of the commonwealth, presented the following preamble and resolutions for adoption:

Whereas, the government and independence of the United States are founded on the adamant truth of the equal rights and brotherhood of





all men, declared on the 4th of July, 1776; a truth which receives new and constant recognition in the process of time, which is the great lesson from our country to the world, in support of which, the founders of our government toiled and bled, and on account of which, we, their children, bless their memory:

And whereas, it is essential to our self-respect as a nation, and to our fame in history, that this truth, declared by our fathers, should not be impeached or violated by any fresh act of their children:

And whereas, the scheme for the annexation of the slave state of Texas, begun in stealth and fraud, and carried on mainly with the view of confirming slavery and extending its bounds, in violation of the very fundamental principle of our institutions, is not consummated, and may yet be arrested by the zealous and hearty co-operations of all who sincerely love the institutions of their country and the liberty of mankind:

And whereas, this scheme, if successfully perpetrated, involves the whole country, the free as well as the slave owners, is one, and threatens to involve them in the other, of the two greatest crimes a nation can commit, slavery and unjust war; slavery of the most revolting character, and war to sustain slavery:

And whereas, the state constitution of Texas, which is soon to be submitted to Congress for its adoption or rejection, expressly prohibits the legislature, except under conditions rendering the exception practically void, from passing laws for the emancipation of slaves, and from abolishing the slave trade between Texas and the United States, thereby entirely reversing the natural and just tendency of our institutions towards freedom:

And whereas, the slaveholders seek the consummation of the scheme of annexation for the purpose of increasing the market for human flesh, and for extending and perpetuating the unreligious institution of slavery:

And whereas, the slaveholders seek also by the consummation of this scheme, and by creating within the limits of Texas, new slave states, to control the political power of the majority of freemen represented in the Congress of the Union:

Therefore, be it resolved, in the name of God, of Christ, and of humanity, that we, belonging to political parties, and reserving all other reasons of objection, unite in protesting against the admission of Texas into this Union as a slave state.

Resolved, That the people of Massachusetts will continue to resist to the last the consummation of this wicked scheme, which will cover the country with disgrace, and make us responsible for crime of gigantic magnitude.

Resolved, That we have the fullest confidence that the senators and representatives of Massachusetts, in Congress, will never consent to the admission of Texas as a slave state; but will resist to the utmost this fatal measure, in every stage of its progress, by their voices and votes.

And furthermore, whereas the Congress of the United States, by assuming the right of connecting this country with a foreign state, have already involved the people of the free states in a great expense for the protection, by force of arms, both by sea and land, of the usurped territory; and whereas, a still greater expenditure may hereafter be incurred to maintain by violence what is held by wrong:

Resolved, That we hereby protest against the policy of enlisting the strength of a free people to sustain, by physical force, a measure threatening to be consummated for the criminal purpose of perpetuating a system of slavery, at war with the fundamental principles of our institutions.

Resolved, That be a committee to present copies of these resolutions to the senators and representatives from Massachusetts, and also to send them to every senator and representative in Congress from the free states.

This adoption having been eloquently and earnestly advocated by the Hon. John G. Palfrey, Messrs. Chas. Sumner, Wendell Phillips, Henry B. Stanton, George S. Hillard, of Boston, Rev. Wm. H. Channing, of Roxbury, and Wm. Lloyd Garrison, of Boston, in a lengthy discussion, in which all present, by their repeated applause, manifested their sympathy, the preamble and resolutions, as presented, were unanimously adopted.

Voted, That Hon. John G. Palfrey, of Cambridge, Hon. Stephen C. Phillips, of Salem, and Hon. Charles F. Adams, of Boston, constitute the committee contemplated by the last resolution.

It was also voted that the proceedings of the meeting, signed by the chairman and secretaries, be published in the Boston papers.

CHARLES F. ADAMS, *Chairman.*  
JAMES M. WHITON,  
CHARLES G. HOVEY, } *Secretaries.*  
WM. I. BOWDITCH,

## Home Intelligence.

**ANTI-SLAVERY MEETINGS.**—On Thursday evening, the 18th of November, a public meeting was held in Falmouth, E. O. Tregelles, Esq., in the chair, who gave some of the results of his observations in the West Indies during his recent tour, of an interesting and satisfactory character. The meeting was addressed at considerable length by the Rev. W. Spencer, of Devonport, and Mr. Scoble, after which resolutions were unanimously adopted by the meeting. Messrs. R. W. Fox, Alfred Fox, and Round, kindly assisted in the business of the evening. An Auxiliary will be formed. A Ladies' Association already exists in the town.

Friday morning was devoted to Helstone, where a public meeting was held in the town-hall. Our zealous and kind friend Mr. Fanning presided. The meeting was small in point of numbers, but there were present the Independent, Baptist, and Wesleyan Ministers, some of whom took part in the proceedings, and all of whom appeared to be deeply interested. In the evening of the same day a public meeting was held in the hall of the Literary Institution, which was kindly lent for the occasion. The Rev. Mr. Foxall in the chair. Besides the addresses delivered on the occasion by the deputation, the Rev. Messrs. Fletcher, New, and Jenkyn, advocated the cause of the slave. In this rising and important town Auxiliary Associations, are to be formed.

Rapid as has been the progress of the deputation, it has been most

pleasing to observe that they have met with a cordial reception, and that the Anti-Slavery cause is still dear to those who so long, and at last so successfully struggled, to abolish slavery in the British colonies.

**THAMES POLICE OFFICE.—ALLEGED SLAVERY.**—Sir George Stephen presented himself before the sitting magistrate, Mr. Broderip, and applied for his worship's assistance under the following circumstance:—

Sir G. Stephen said the communication he had to make was a very extraordinary one, which he was satisfied would create no little surprise. There was at present in the London Docks a vessel which, contrary to the laws and practice of this country, had twenty men on board in a state of complete slavery. The crew were compelled to be on board at stated hours, but of that he of course did not complain, as it went no further than the usual discipline. But, passing this, the men were held in such a state of duress and dread, that they were afraid at all to leave the vessel, and were, moreover, subjected to severe personal ill-treatment. Indeed, from all that he had been able to ascertain, they were slaves, in the strictest sense of the word, and to such an extent had the domination been carried, that one man had been murdered in the course of the voyage.

Mr. Broderip.—You use a strong term, involving a serious charge.

Sir G. Stephen.—I can use no milder term, though I fear, sir, the act does not come within your jurisdiction. The man was killed whilst the vessel was off the island of Ascension, and there is a person in court who can prove that he was held down by the order of the supercargo, and pressed to death by two others of the crew, in their peculiar fashion, with the knees and elbows. I should have stated before that the vessel in which the men came over belongs to the Imam of Muscat; she is called the *Caroline*, and is the same which lately brought presents to the Queen. Some of the crew are, as I am given to understand, slaves to the master, some to the supercargo, and others to the boatswain. I have the names of all the parties, and perhaps you would grant a summons for the captain or supercargo, so as to make them aware of the danger which they incur, by asserting absolute rule over these men in a free country.

Mr. Broderip.—I do not see in what way you shape your application. You speak of the men as slaves. Here there are no slaves.

Sir G. Stephen.—That is what I want to establish; and if by any process of this court the men can be brought before you, it will be ascertained how far they are *bonâ fide* at liberty, or how far in duress. I can give you the testimony of an English witness.

Mr. Broderip.—Then your application is, that these men should be afforded an opportunity of making any complaint that they may have to prefer.

Sir G. Stephen.—Exactly, sir; and moreover, as they are good sailors, that they may have liberty to ship where they please.

Mr. Broderip.—Have they signed articles?

Sir G. Stephen.—I am told they have; but I am at the same time given to understand that it was under compulsion.

An English seaman, named Morris, was here called, and stated that the men were kept in a state of complete slavery. They had signed articles, but at the time of doing so they were not free agents.

Mr. Broderip.—How do you know that? They told me so.

Mr. Broderip.—Where are the men now? They are on board a vessel called the *Anne*, but they came in the *Caroline*.

Mr. Broderip (to Sir G. Stephen).—Am I to understand that there is one serious charge of murder?

Sir G. Stephen.—There is no doubt that human life has been sacrificed, but I fear the case does not come within your jurisdiction.

Mr. Broderip.—Do you make any application on that point? No, sir.

Mr. Broderip.—Then, with respect to your other application, the best course will be to communicate the matter to the Thames Police, who will go on board the vessel, and make the necessary inquiries. The relative positions of the men and the officers will be pointed out to both parties, and if there be cause of complaint on either side, the police will take cognizance of it.

Sir G. Stephen.—I thank your worship for your advice, and will follow it.

Mr. Broderip.—Do not misunderstand me; I never give any advice in a case which may come before me in my magisterial capacity. I merely point out here, if these parties have any complaint to make, they can procure free access to the proper tribunal.

Sir G. Stephen.—My object is, that the men may ascertain their perfect freedom to ship where they please, and that they also may learn that slavery is incompatible with the institutions of this free country.

Mr. Broderip.—That principle is throughout understood. Whoever lands here is a slave no longer. The question, as I apprehend, will be whether they have signed articles to go back, and if so, whether they were free agents at the time. Instructions were then given to one of the inspectors of the Thames division to visit the *Anne*, and Sir G. Stephen took leave, thanking the worthy magistrate for his assistance.

## Colonial Intelligence.

**JAMAICA.—IMMIGRATION.**—On the recent opening of the House of Assembly, the Governor expressed himself on this subject as follows: "The opinion seems to prevail very generally that the introduction of more economical processes of cultivation and manufacture, and the progress of civilization among the peasantry, have a tendency to give enhanced value to that which already exists in the colony. But there are, nevertheless, many persons who believe, that in order to the development of its resources, an addition to the population, by means of immigration, is indispensable. Your thorough knowledge of the circumstances of the island, and your deep interest in its prosperity, qualify you to form a correct judgment on these points; and I earnestly hope that the result of your deliberations may be conducive to the general welfare. The report of the agent general, which I shall lay before you, details the proceedings which have been adopted under the Act for the encouragement of immigration now in force. Her Majesty's government have placed immigra-



tion from Africa upon a less expensive footing. A small portion only of the Coolie immigrants, for whose introduction provision was made by the Legislature last Session, have as yet arrived, but the remainder may be shortly expected. The reports which I have received of their conduct and service are generally satisfactory. A certain number of the class of persons designated Emancipados, have been imported at the expense of the colony, from the neighbouring island of Cuba."

**PRESENT STATE AND CONDITION OF SUGAR ESTATES.**—Mr. Hart has given notice that he intended to move for the appointment of a committee to inquire and report to the house the present state and condition of the several sugar estates throughout the island, compared with their condition prior to the abolition act, whether the quantity and quality of produce now manufactured on such estates is greater and better than was made during the time of slavery, or whether the same has fallen off, and the cause of such falling off.—*Falmouth Post*.

**ST. CHRISTOPHER'S.—THE WEATHER.**—We regret to state that there has been no alteration in the weather since our last notice of it. The country is literally parched up, and the prospect of a good crop for next year entirely destroyed. The heat in town has been distressingly oppressive; the thermometer at 89° and 90°.—*St. Kitt's Advertiser*.

**GRENADA.—IMMIGRATION.**—The Immigration Duties Bill has passed, and it has passed with a clause reducing the rum licences. The result will be that the town and country will swarm with grog-shops, and the effect will not be long in showing itself in an augmentation of the many vagrants that are now to be seen in an awful state of disease about the liquor shops of the island.—*Grenada Gazette*.

**TRINIDAD.—INTER-COLONIAL MIGRATION.**—In the Legislative Council, on the 1st of November, attention was called to the bonus hitherto allowed to the owners of vessels which were engaged in the introduction of immigrants from the islands. The general opinion seemed to be that that it would be inexpedient to continue or encourage the system any farther, and that it had failed to afford that benefit to the colony contemplated by its adoption. Mr. Burnley, Mr. Ganteaume, and Dr. Philip concurred most fully in this opinion, and animadverted upon the systematic imposition which was being practised upon the colonial government by the parties concerned as immigrants and as masters of vessels. Dr. Philip observed that there was now no inducement whatever for continuing the system any longer. It was altogether a bad system, accompanied in its operation by serious evils. It offered a bonus to persons to come here, who merely came as transient visitors. It was a notorious fact that labourers would, on getting their wages paid, often go away from Trinidad on a visit to their friends in the other islands, and sometimes return again as newly-imported immigrants. The hon. gentleman considered that the colony would be much better without it, particularly as they had to pay so dearly for it.—*Trinidad Standard*.

**BRITISH GUIANA.—IMMIGRANTS.**—One vessel, the *Louisa Baillie*, had arrived at Berbice from Sierra Leone, with 252 persons on board, of whom eight were returned delegates; and another at Georgetown, from Madeira, with 202 passengers. The *Royal Gazette* says,—"When it is known that the governor of that island prohibits altogether the younger class of men from emigrating, and exacts a fee of eight dollars a head from those who are allowed to quit the bay of Funchal in the regular mode, the fact of one vessel, and that not a very large one, arriving with so many of these poor, but hardy and laborious people within her decks, proves that there must be a strong inclination in the natives which no difficulties or regulations of the government can effectually repress, to cross over to British Guiana to try their fortunes in it. There is one circumstance worthy of note which renders the immigration of these islanders particularly desirable; usually they bring their wives and families with them. The consequence is, that not merely do they soon become colonists, with no desire in most instances to revisit their father-land, but they are likewise generally speaking a very orderly and well-conducted class of persons."

**REFORM MEETING.**—On the 20th of October a numerous and animated meeting was held in Georgetown, on the subject of political reform. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted: 1. "That the present legislative institutions of this province, having been founded on the basis of a system of slavery, which has happily passed away, are not fitted, either in principle or in operation, for the present advanced state and altered composition of society." 2. "That it is the inalienable right of British subjects to elect their legislative representatives, and that it is a bounden duty which every inhabitant of this province owes to himself, to his fellow subjects, and to his posterity, to use every legal means to obtain for himself and fellow-subjects in British Guiana a legislature, to be elected by the full, free, and direct suffrages of its inhabitants." A petition to the Queen, embodying these sentiments, was adopted.

### Foreign Intelligence.

**UNITED STATES.—MISSISSIPPI.**—By a provision in the Constitution of Mississippi, the introduction of slaves into that State, after the present year, either as merchandise, or by settlers for their own use, is prohibited. The Legislature at its last session passed an act to authorise the people to vote on a proposition to change the provision. The *New Orleans Bulletin* says that the popular sentiment is against any change.—*Anti-Slavery Standard*.

**CHARLES T. TORREY.**—A letter from Baltimore from B. G. Lincoln, speaks thus of Mr. Torrey:—"But, alas! poor Torrey. A sad change has come over him that has blasted in a day all his long cherished hopes of usefulness. Confined amid the vulgar and the vile, shut out from his family, his friends, and the world, pale, emaciated, and sick, unable for several weeks last past to perform his daily task at the wheel, his eyes are dim, his voice hoarse, his spirits depressed, and to me he ap-

peared like one not long to be held by the massive walls of iron and granite that now surround him. His confinement is evidently undermining his constitution, and that he will survive the five long years yet remaining of his sentence is quite improbable. This, I think, he sensibly feels, for he spoke discouragingly, like one whose earthly hopes had fled. He thanked me affectionately for my visit, and wished to be kindly remembered to several friends whom he named. We shook hands and parted, he to return to his forlorn and confined abode, from which he can expect no release except by death, and I to pursue my journey with a heavy heart, made sad with the reflection that nothing could be done to restore him to his freedom and usefulness. And now should Mr. Torrey die in prison, as most probably he must, in the skirts of whose garments will be found his blood?"

**KIDNAPPING IN PENNSYLVANIA.**—According to the *Gettysburg Star*, a vile outrage was recently perpetrated in Adam's county, Pa., by certain kidnappers from Maryland. Above two years since, it says, "an elderly widow lady" removed to that county, from the State of Maryland, bringing with her a family of slaves, consisting of a mother with her children, left to her by the will of her husband. She manumitted them; and some have since died. This fact becoming known to certain kidnappers in Hagerstown, they obtained all necessary information concerning the situation of the family from an emissary they took into their employ, and at an appointed time made their appearance with a covered wagon, seized the woman and her two children, threw them into the wagon, and hurried them off to Maryland, whence, it is supposed, the poor victims have been transferred to the South. Great excitement arose in Gettysburg, but it was too late.

**THE SPITFIRE.**—Captain Flowny has been found guilty on the charge of fitting out the *Spitfire* with a view to employ her in the slave-trade, but recommended by the jury to mercy. He is sentenced to five years' imprisonment, and a fine of 2,000 dollars.—*Boston Chronicle*.

A man, avowing himself an abolitionist, and publicly attempting to give currency to his sentiments, was yesterday arrested by the police and committed to the watch-house. At night a crowd attempted to get him out, to be tarred and feathered, but did not succeed. A second attempt was made this morning, when he was brought before the mayor. He was saved only by the firmness of that functionary, who seized a pistol, and threatened to shoot the first man who made the attempt.—*Ibid*.

**CATCHING A RUNAWAY.**—We have received a handbill, which states that James T. Vermillion, of Fairfax county, Virginia, was murdered by a negro man, whom he had apprehended as a runaway, near his residence, Pleasant Valley, Fairfax county, on Tuesday, the 7th inst., whilst he was in the act of carrying him before a magistrate.—*Baltimore Journal*.

**RUNNING OFF SLAVES TO TEXAS.**—In November last, a man by the name of James Spurlock and his overseer, run off about seventy negroes to Gasper county, in Texas, on which property liens were held by persons in New Orleans and elsewhere. Rewards were offered for their recovery, and a young man volunteered to fetch them back. He succeeded in securing five, and recrossed the Sabine, when he was overtaken, and the negroes captured. The young man raised fifteen armed men, and again reached Spurlock's residence, fifty miles in the interior of Texas, when he captured Spurlock's overseers and fifty-six negroes. When about forty-five miles from Alexandria, the party, overpowered by fatigue, stopped, and sunk into slumber, from which they were awakened by the whistling of bullets through their tents. All but the leader and two of his men took to their heels and fled for life. The assailants numbered about forty men. The two who stood by their leader were shot dead. The principal in the enterprise, and another young man came up afterwards, succeeded in killing two of their opponents, and wounding another, and then made good their retreat. The slaves were retaken and carried back to Texas.—*Alexandria Democrat*.

**DANGER OF RETURNING.**—A negro man, by the name of Charles, was yesterday committed to jail by the request of his master, from whom he had run away over two years ago. He settled in Michigan, and after being there for twelve or eighteen months, concluded once more to visit this section, for what purpose he does not say. His master getting wind of it, laid a plan to catch him, which proved successful.—*St. Louis New Era*.

**SIGNS FROM THE SOUTH.**—A Cincinnati friend writes to me that a man has lately arrived in Cincinnati, bringing four slaves from Mississippi, whom he intends to set free, educate, and settle on a farm. He states that there is a strong growing sentiment against slavery in the portion of Mississippi where he resides, and he has no doubt many of his neighbours will follow his example, by emancipating their slaves. Our friend also mentions the recent arrival of thirty emancipated slaves from South Carolina.—*Spirit of Liberty*.

In one paper a boy is advertised for sale in Philadelphia, and in another, a man, at Washington. "O shame! where is thy blush?"

**ST. DOMINGO.**—The Washington correspondent of the *New York Journal of Commerce*, says, under date of October 20th, 1845:—"Mr. Calhoun, towards the close of the late administration, despatched an agent to the island of St. Domingo, for what particular object it was not known. He was paid out of the secret service fund. This agent (Mr. Hogan) has returned, and made a voluminous, and, as I understand, an interesting report, which will probably, at some time, see the light. It is conjectured that it relates chiefly to the condition of the Spanish portion of the island, and the situation and prospects of the Dominicans, their war with the Haytiens, the policy of the English and French governments in regard to them, and to the slaveholding portion of the West India islands, generally, &c. It has been supposed that the British Government, and perhaps the Government of France also, will take such a course as will aid the entire abolition of slavery in this island, and, indeed, in all the Spanish and French islands. The subject is one of some interest to the slaveholding portion of the United States."



**MARTINIQUE.—RECAPTURE OF AN ESCAPED SLAVE.**—The *Dominican* says,—“We learn by an arrival from Martinique that the schooner *Cherub*, on her way to Berbice, having put into the first mentioned port had one of her seamen taken from her by the authorities there. It appears that the man was a fugitive; having escaped from Martinique some years ago, and taken refuge here, and, being a seaman, found employ on board of our droghers. Not being aware that the vessel would have touched at Martinique, he shipped on board of her. On the vessel's coming to anchor, she was boarded by the customs' boat, and one of the boatmen recognising him, told the circumstance to the officers, who left the vessel, and shortly after returned on board with a writ and the proper officer, who took the poor fellow into custody, and carried him ashore, where he is doomed to endure the horrors of slavery, now doubly aggravated by his having enjoyed the blessing of liberty.”

**BRAZIL.**—By the *Journal de Commerce* of the 11th of October, it is announced that Senor Galvao is appointed by the Brazilian Government to confer with Mr. Hamilton for the purpose of arranging a convention between the Brazils and Great Britain for the effectual suppression of the slave-trade, without annoyance to the lawful trade of the empire.

**AFRICA.—THE GREAT DESERT.—GHADAMES.**—The caravans, either of the Touraicks or the Ghadamseen, bring slaves from Timbuctoo, Soudan, and Bournou, but chiefly from the latter two countries. These arrive in Ghadames twice, and sometimes thrice, during the year. From Ghadames they are exported to various parts of Tripoli, and formerly were to Tunis and Algiers. But the war in the one country, and the abolition of the traffic in the others, have cut off the trade in that direction. A good adult slave is sold in Ghadames for 30 mahbbouls, or about 7l. sterling: most of them, however, are sold at 15 and 20 mahbbouls, or from 4l. to 5l. each. The Touraicks of the Sahara occasionally deal in slaves, and their slaves are very badly treated. In all cases, excepting very young children, the slaves are obliged to walk a four months' journey through the desert before they arrive at Tripoli. Many hundreds and thousands of the poor creatures—the victims of man's sordid cupidity and lust—perish on their way! A large caravan of slaves is expected in the course of two or three months from Soudan; I think, however, this traffic is gradually declining, and will diminish more and more. There are, besides, not now half a dozen slaves in Ghadames, except the resident slaves who are attached to the various households. Some people in Tripoli, however, think that the new treaty between France and England will have the effect of driving the slave-trade this way over the desert; but this I do not believe. As to the way in which the slaves are obtained, from all I can learn, it is by simply stealing them—*din*, or “theft,” as it is called in the negro language. But it is necessary to go to the heart of Africa itself, if I would obtain correct information on the mode of the capture of these unfortunate people. And to effectually put a stop to the traffic it is both requisite to shut the slave-market in Tripoli, and to negotiate some sort of treaty with the princes of Bournou and Soudan for the abolition of the trade in human beings. Above all, it is requisite that our Government, or some other, should take means for opening a legitimate commerce of exchange and barter with the products of Europe and Africa. All the pagan slaves captured are immediately made Mahomedans. The Ghadamseen are greatly mixed with the negro race, and two-thirds of them are casts, more or less dark. This arises from the Soudan merchants, who have trafficked from time immemorial in slaves, cohabiting with and marrying their favourite slaves, whereas the Touraicks of the Sahara, who generally have not the money to purchase slaves, are comparatively a pure and unmixed race of Arabs. The Shiekh of the slaves here told me there are always some 200 resident slaves. This is but a small population; unquestionably it was much greater in former times. The country between Bournou and Timbuctoo is distinguished by the Moors and Arabs as the *Bur Abeed*, “country of slaves,” or Soudan, from the epithet *eswad*, “black,” the colour of the inhabitants. Slaves are, however, equally exported from Bournou and Timbuctoo, and the term “*Bur Abeed*” is not appropriate. —*Correspondent of the Times*.

**CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.**—A correspondent of the *Shipping and Mercantile Gazette* states that cotton planting is advancing rapidly at Port Natal.

**PORTUGAL.**—The *Diana* frigate arrived at Lisbon, from Angola, Nov. 1st. Among the passengers was M. Possolo, who, no landing, was arrested, by virtue of an order from the Government, and conveyed to prison. The charge against him is said to be that he has connived at the slave-trade, and that he has been engaged in it himself to a very great extent. This has long been rumoured of him, and the statement goes far to confirm the report. He had a contract with government for the supply of coals, which may have had the effect of removing any suspicion in the first instance. However, it shows that the Portuguese government is sincerely disposed to do its best for the extinction of the slave-trade. The territory of Angola, though capable of being rendered as great a mine of wealth as Brazil once was, has, under the baneful effects of the slave-trade, which exports the labourers that ought to be employed in the culture of its fertile soil, been greatly neglected, but it is presumed that the Government has at last determined upon breaking the spell under which the capabilities of that vast colony of upwards of 60,000 square miles have till now lain dormant. When the frigate left Angola, the commander of the Portuguese naval station, Captain Curba, remained there as acting Governor. He was installed on the 6th of Sept., on which day, for reasons which have not transpired, he caused a rich merchant, named Del Caspio, to be arrested and conveyed on board the *Cabo Verde* sloop of war, which next day sailed with him nobody knows where. The *Diana* likewise brought the Black Prince, not Edward, but Nicholas, a lad of fourteen, the heir apparent of his most sable Majesty, the king of Congo, whose territories, half as large as the Peninsula, at

least, lie to the northward of Angola. This sprig of royalty, who has been sent by his papa for the purpose of being educated, was received with royal salutes, manning of yards, and all other demonstrations due to his exalted rank. The duke of Terceira was sent with the queen's carriage to receive him. The prince, as his name seems to imply, is a Christian. His grandfather, while the Portuguese court was at Rio, paid a visit to king John the Sixth, by whom he was received with great distinction. —*Morning Herald*.

### Miscellanea.

**SIERRA LEONE.**—This colony is now governed by a native of the interior of Africa. William Ferguson, Esq., staff surgeon of the first class, and principal medical officer on the western coast of Africa, received his education in Edinburgh, and has, by his talent, earned the honourable appointment of Governor of Sierra Leone. —*Jamaica Baptist Herald*.

**FREE LABOUR IN TENNESSEE.**—It is said that a colony of 800 or 1,000 Germans are about to locate in Morgan county, Tennessee. One design of the colony is to introduce free labour. Success to every such enterprise.

**CULTIVATION OF COTTON IN THE BAHAMAS.**—Companies are about being formed in England for cultivating the sugar-cane in the West Indies. Similar efficacious means applied to cotton culture here might once more insure the growth of a most important staple in the Bahamas, where the climate and rocky land, with fissures and crevices filled with rich vegetable earth, are peculiarly adapted to the cotton plant. Of all the tropical climates in her Majesty's dominions, there is none, perhaps, more happily situated than the Bahamas for the cultivation of cotton, but there is wanted to insure its success capital to expend and judgment to direct the culture. It may be added, that at New Providence African agricultural labourers abound, willing to be employed as labourers, males at the rate of a quarter of a dollar per day, and women at half that amount, and that Crown land may be purchased at 6s. sterling per acre, and private land at moderate rates; the application of British capital to which is wanted to supersede the native “bush” by the graceful cotton plant, with its golden blossoms and silver fleece. —*Nassau Guardian*.

**OREGON.**—A letter from Oregon, published in the *Platte* (Mobile) *Argus*, states that the legislature had passed an act declaring that slavery shall not exist in that territory. The letter continues:—“The owners of slaves who bring them here are allowed two years to take them out of the country, and in default, the slaves to be free. The act also prohibits free negroes or mulattoes from settling or remaining in this country, and requires them to leave in two years, and, in default, to be hired out to the lowest bidder, who will bind himself to remove them from the country for the shortest term of service, and within six months after the expiration thereof. The object is to keep clear of this most troublesome class of population.”

**STEAM SLAVERS.**—(From the *Philadelphia U. S. Gazette*.)—“Pernambuco, July 29, 1845. The steamer *Cacique* is lying here, fitting out for the coast of Africa, for slaves. She has had the propellers taken off, and both pairs are now lying on the wharf. She is to be driven by paddle-wheels on her sides, with buckets to unship, and her engines have been upon deck. These arrangements and changes have been contracted for by C. Starr and Co., and she will sail in a few days. The owner, captain, mate and hands are Portuguese, and the engineers and firemen are Americans. I believe this is the first experiment of slaving by steam, but there is no doubt that the example will be followed. She flies Brazilian colours, and is lying in company with two Brazilian men of war brigs, taking aboard her casks, &c., and it is publicly known that she is going to the coast of Africa for a cargo of slaves.”

Extract of a letter from her Majesty's ship *Penelope*, dated St. Helena, Oct. 13th.—“We left on the 19th of September for the coast, and on the 26th a sail was reported ahead, which was soon made out to be a steamer, and knowing that none of ours were there, supposed to be the *French Commodore*, (as that was the only one we know of,) were getting ready to salute, but as we headed her we could not understand why she did not show her colours. We fired a blank gun when we saw her hoist a Brazilian ensign, and throw a parcel overboard, and we passed papers floating. We stopped and sent the cutter to board her, and when the boat left the ship we saw another parcel of papers with a weight attached to it, thrown over the stern, and as soon as the lieutenant boarded, he hailed, ‘No papers, and completely fitted for the slave-trade.’ She proved to be called the *Cacique*, from Campos, in the Brazils, and cruising off the coast for a cargo of slaves. She had been to the mouth of the Congo, but as she could not get the whole of them she was obliged to leave, and intended to return in a few days, when there were to have been 1,500 slaves ready for her, but as we pinned her we saved her the trouble. The *Cacique* is an American-built vessel, with a high-pressure engine on the upper deck of 40-horse power; all the crew live on the upper deck also, so that her full length is given to the slave-deck. Her crew consisted of twenty-six men, and two stokers, (Americans.) We sent one lieutenant, two midshipmen, and two engineers, and twenty-eight men to bring her to this place for condemnation; and on the morning of the 30th, at daylight, a sail was reported, which proved the brigantine, called the *Lageira*, with no papers, with a slave-deck laid. We sent her also to this place, as they are both Vice-Admiralty Court cases, but there has been such a prevalence of light winds we cannot expect them here yet.” —*Devonport Telegraph*.

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